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February 22, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop RCE

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 09/599,594; Filed: June 22, 2000
For: **Primers and Methods for the Detection and Discrimination of Nucleic Acids**
Inventors: Nazarenko *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4980002/RWE/FRC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a);
2. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal;
3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116;
4. Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
5. Listing of the cited document on Form PTO-1449 (1 sheet);
6. A copy of the cited document on Form PTO-1449;
7. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of **\$910.00** to cover the following fees:

\$120.00 - Extension of Time;
\$790.00 - RCE; and

8. Return postcard.

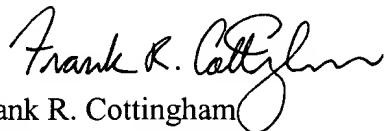
Commissioner for Patents
February 22, 2005
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It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


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Encls.

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